

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 110960

62

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-06 SS-15 SSO-00 IO-13 /045 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:DKUX

APPROVED BY OES/SCI/AE:MKRATZER

OES/SCI/AE:DHOYLE (SUBS)

----- 011451

O 072204Z MAY 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL BOMBAY NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 110960

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

FOR COURTNEY FROM KRATZER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, IN

SUBJECT: TARAPUR

1. WOULD LIKE YOU TO TELL SETHNA, THAT UNDER THE CIRCUM-
STANCES, I CONSIDER THE NRC RULING (DISCUSSED IN SEPTTEL)
TO BE EXTREMELY FAVORABLE. FIRST, THE PETITIONERS HAVE
BEEN DENIED LEGAL STANDING. SECOND, THE NRC HAS OPTED
FOR THE TYPE OF HEARING WHICH IS LEAST UNDESIRABLE FROM
OUR STANDPOINT. (AS INDICATED EARLIER, IT WAS MY JUDGE-
MENT THAT GIVEN THE CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC INTEREST IN
THE CASE, NRC WAS LIKELY TO DECIDE UPON SOME FORM OF
PUBLIC HEARING). THIRD, THE NRC HAS ADOPTED A TIMETABLE
WHICH INDICATES THAT THEY INTEND TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM
IN AN EXPEDITIOUS MANNER. THIS INDICATES TO ME THAT THEY
ARE MINDFUL OF THE URGENCY OF MOVING AHEAD WITH THE SHIP-
MENTS (ASSUMING THEY DECIDE UPON ISSUANCE OF THE LICENSES)
IN A TIMELY FASHION SO AS TO AVOID DISRUPTING TARAPUR
OPERATIONS. FOURTH, I AM PLEASED THAT THE NRC HAS
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PAGE 02 STATE 110960

FOCUSED THE HEARINGS ON GENUINE ISSUES AND RULED OUT A

NUMBER OF ESSENTIALLY EXTRANEEOUS QUESTIONS INTRODUCED BY
THE PETITIONERS.

2. I CONVEYED THE GIST OF THE ABOVE TO INDIAN DCM,
VENKATESWAREN, AND HOPE HE WILL BE CABLING UPBEAT MESSAGE
TO DELHI AND BOMBAY. INS COUNTRY DIRECTOR KUX SPOKE
LATER WITH INDIAN SCIENCE COUNSELOR ANANDAKRISHNAN WHO
SAID HE WAS EXTREMELY PLEASED WITH NRC FINDING WHICH
HE HAD REVIEWED AND STATED THAT EMBASSY WOULD BE SENDING
POSITIVE MESSAGE TO INDIA. ANANDAKRISHNAN ADDED THAT
ASSUMING LICENSE ISSUED BY JUNE 30, SHIPMENTS SHOULD
REACH INDIA IN TIME TO AVOID INTERRUPTION IN TARAPUR
OPERATIONS. SISCO

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